

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-28 (Canceled).

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The fastening tape according to Claim 72, wherein an adhesive layer runs continuously within the entire carrier area underneath the spot-shaped carriers so that said layer lies open between the spots.

Claim 30 (Canceled).

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The fastening tape according to Claim 72, wherein the spots have their own main direction of extent.

Claim 32 (Canceled).

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The fastening tape according to Claim 73, wherein the bending line lies obliquely or normally to the direction of longitudinal extent.

Claim 34 (Canceled).

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The fastening tape according to Claim 73, wherein bending lines run exclusively in one direction or at least essentially in one direction through the carrier area.

Claims 36-39 (Canceled).

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): The fastening tape according to Claim 70, wherein the plurality of spot-shaped carriers comprises a plurality of spots having a varying edge in the machine direction and arranged in levels extending in the direction of the longitudinal extent of the fastening tape over the effective width of the carrier area, each level being separated from an adjoining level by a distance in the machine direction, and at least one spot being provided at each level .

Claims 41-43 (Canceled).

Claim 44 (Previously Presented): The fastening tape according to Claim 70, wherein the plurality of spot-shaped carriers comprises a plurality of strip-shaped spots formed by a separation in a first direction and by a spaced-apart weakening in a second direction.

Claims 45-52 (Canceled).

Claim 53 (Currently Amended): A strip material having a longitudinal direction of extent which can be divided by separating across the longitudinal direction of extent ~~and optionally substantially in the longitudinal direction of extent~~ to form individual usages in the form of fastening tapes according to Claim 70.

Claim 54 (Previously Presented) A coil of a strip material according to Claim 53.

Claim 55 (Previously Presented): A diaper having a fastening tape according to Claim 70.

Claims 56-64 (Canceled).

Claim 65 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 75, wherein the spots applied comprise edge spots extending over a bordering edge and when separating individual fastening tapes, the edge spots extending over the bordering edge are severed.

Claim 66 (Canceled).

Claim 67 (Previously Presented): The fastening tape according to claim 44, wherein the plurality of strip-shaped spots comprise at least two strips along the first direction, wherein the strips lie parallel to the first direction and substantially parallel to one another, whereas in the second direction along the profile of the strips, the strips are provided with an edge variation comprising weakenings which are spaced apart from one another, with a constriction of the strips comprising a tapering in the profile so that defined bending lines are obtained in the first direction along the dividing lines of the individual strip-shaped spots and approximately perpendicular hereto, are obtained weaker but nevertheless perceptible further bending lines.

Claims 68-69 (Canceled).

Claim 70 (Currently Amended): A fastening tape for a hygiene item comprising:

(a) a fastening area for permanent attachment to the hygiene item;

(b) a closing area for simultaneous detachable joining to a surface of the hygiene item, said closing area comprising first and second areas, said first area having a shear-off securing component of a two-component mechanical fastening system and said second area having a pop-off securing fastener comprising an adhesive layer;

(c) a plurality of spot-shaped carriers within a carrier area defined by said spot-shaped carriers, each spot-shaped carrier carrying the shear-off securing component, wherein a selected first set of said plurality of spot-shaped carriers comprises a plurality of edge carriers, each edge carrier forming a respective portion of a border of the carrier area along an edge section of the edge carrier, and wherein a selected second set of said plurality of spot-shaped carriers comprises identical strip-shaped spots;

(d) a fastening carrier fastened to said spot-shaped carriers, said fastening carrier comprising first and second longitudinal portions; and

(e) a bending line running through the carrier area;

wherein said adhesive layer comprises at least first and second adhesives extending respectively over the first and second longitudinal portions of the fastening carrier.

Claim 71 (Canceled).

Claim 72 (Previously Presented): A fastening tape for a hygiene item comprising:

- (a) a fastening area for permanent attachment to the hygiene item;
- (b) a closing area for simultaneous detachable joining to a surface of the hygiene item;
- (c) a plurality of spot-shaped carriers within a carrier area defined by said spot-shaped carriers, each spot-shaped carrier carrying a component of a two-component mechanical fastening system;
- (d) a fastening carrier fastened to said spot-shaped carriers; and
- (e) a bending line running through the carrier area;

wherein the plurality of spot-shaped carriers comprises at least one central spot having a spot edge situated within the carrier area and at least one edge spot having a spot edge situated at a tape edge.

Claim 73 (Previously Presented): A fastening tape for a hygiene item comprising:

(a) a fastening area for permanent attachment to the hygiene item;

(b) a closing area for simultaneous detachable joining to a surface of the hygiene item;

(c) a plurality of spot-shaped carriers within a carrier area defined by said spot-shaped carriers, each spot-shaped carrier carrying a component of a two-component mechanical fastening system;

(d) a fastening carrier fastened to said spot-shaped carriers; and

(e) a bending line running through the carrier area;

wherein the plurality of spot-shaped carriers comprises a plurality of circular spots and at least one semicircular edge spot having a chord running through the mid-point of the at least one semi-circular edge spot along a boundary of the carrier area.

Claim 74 (Currently Amended): A method for closing a diaper comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a diaper having a wing, a landing zone, and a fastening tape, the landing zone comprising a surface area of a textile back sheet, the fastening tape comprising a fastening

area for permanent attachment to the diaper, a closing area for simultaneous detachable joining to a surface of the diaper, said closing area comprising first and second areas, said first area having a shear-off securing component of a two-component mechanical fastening system and said second area having a pop-off securing fastener, a plurality of spot-shaped carriers within a carrier area defined by said spot-shaped carriers, each spot-shaped carrier carrying the shear-off securing component, wherein a selected set of said plurality of spot-shaped carriers comprises a plurality of edge carriers, each edge carrier forming a respective portion of a border of the carrier area along an edge section of the edge carrier, a fastening carrier fastened to said spot-shaped carriers, and a bending line running through the carrier area; and

(b) closing the ~~diaper~~ diaper by establishing a connection between the closing area of the fastening tape on the diaper wing and the landing zone.

Claim 75 (Currently Amended): A method for producing a fastening tape comprising the steps of:

(a) first applying spots to a plurality of fastening tapes adjacent in a machine direction; and

(b) subsequently separating the tapes to yield a final shape of each fastening tape;

wherein each fastening tape comprises a fastening area for permanent attachment to a hygiene item, a closing area for simultaneous detachable joining to a surface of the hygiene item, said closing area comprising first and second areas, said first area having a shear-off securing component of a two-component mechanical fastening system and said second area having a pop-off securing fastener, a plurality of spot-shaped carriers within a carrier area defined by said spot-shaped carriers, each spot-shaped carrier carrying the shear-off securing component, wherein a selected first set of said plurality of spot-shaped carriers comprises a plurality of edge carriers, each edge carrier forming a respective portion of a border of the carrier area along an edge section of the edge carrier, and wherein a selected second set of said plurality of spot-shaped carriers comprises identical strip-shaped spots, a fastening carrier fastened to said spot-shaped carriers, and a bending line running through the carrier area.

Claim 76 (Currently Amended): A fastening tape for a hygiene item comprising:

(a) a fastening area for permanent attachment to the hygiene item;

(b) a closing area for simultaneous detachable joining to a surface of the hygiene item;

(c) a plurality of spot-shaped carriers within a carrier area defined by said carriers, each spot-shaped carrier carrying a component of a two-component mechanical fastening system, wherein a selected set of said plurality of spot-shaped carriers comprises identical strip-shaped spots;

(d) a fastening carrier fastened to said spot-shaped carriers, said fastening carrier comprising first and second longitudinal portions; and

(e) a bending line running through the carrier area; wherein when viewed from the fastening area, the closing area initially at least partially comprises hooks and otherwise an open adhesive surface, said open adhesive surface comprising at least first and second adhesives extending respectively over the first and second longitudinal portions of the fastening carrier.

Claim 77 (Currently Amended): A fastening tape for a hygiene item comprising:

(a) a fastening area for permanent attachment to the hygiene item;

(b) a closing area for simultaneous detachable joining to a surface of the hygiene item;

(c) a plurality of spot-shaped carriers within a carrier area defined by said carriers, each spot-shaped carrier carrying a hook component of a two-component mechanical fastening system;

(d) a fastening carrier fastened to said spot-shaped carriers;

wherein the plurality of shot-shaped carriers comprises a plurality of edge spots with a sharp-edged edge section; and

wherein the hook component on the edge section comprises a plurality of severed hooks.

Claim 78 (New): A fastening tape for a hygiene item comprising:

(a) a fastening area for permanent attachment to the hygiene item;

(b) a closing area for simultaneous detachable joining to a surface of the hygiene item, said closing area comprising first and second areas, said first area having a shear-off securing component of a two-component mechanical fastening system comprising first and second edge strips and said second area

having a pop-off securing fastener comprising an exposed adhesive between the first and second edge strips;

(c) a plurality of spot-shaped carriers within a carrier area defined by said spot-shaped carriers, each spot-shaped carrier carrying the shear-off securing component, wherein a selected first set of said plurality of spot-shaped carriers comprises a plurality of edge carriers, each edge carrier forming a respective portion of a border of the carrier area along an edge section of the edge carrier, and wherein a selected second set of said plurality of spot-shaped carriers comprises identical strip-shaped spots;

(d) a fastening carrier fastened to said spot-shaped carriers; and

(e) a bending line running through the carrier area.

Claim 79 (New): The fastening tape according to claim 70, wherein the border of the carrier area near a separation in a machine direction coincides with a longitudinal tape edge.

Claim 80 (New): A fastening tape for a hygiene item comprising:

(a) a fastening area for permanent attachment to the hygiene item;

(b) a closing area for simultaneous detachable joining to a surface of the hygiene item;

(c) a plurality of spot-shaped carriers within a carrier area defined by said carriers, each spot-shaped carrier carrying a component of a two-component mechanical fastening system, wherein a selected set of said plurality of spot-shaped carriers comprises identical strip-shaped spots;

(d) a fastening carrier fastened to said spot-shaped carriers; and

(e) a bending line running through the carrier area; wherein when viewed from the fastening area, the closing area initially at least partially comprises hooks and otherwise an open adhesive surface; and

wherein a border of the carrier area near a separation in a machine direction coincides with a longitudinal tape edge.

Claim 81 (New): A strip material having a longitudinal direction of extent which can be divided by separating across the longitudinal direction of extent to form individual usages in the form of fastening tapes for a hygiene item, each fastening tape comprising a fastening area for permanent attachment to the hygiene item, a closing area for simultaneous detachable joining to a surface of the hygiene item, a plurality of spot-shaped

carriers within a carrier area defined by said spot-shaped carriers, each spot-shaped carrier carrying a component of a two-component mechanical fastening system, a fastening carrier fastened to said spot-shaped carriers, said fastening carrier comprising first and second longitudinal portions, and a bending line running through the carrier area;

wherein the carrier area has a cohesive open adhesive area between the spot-shaped carriers, said open adhesive area comprising at least first and second adhesives extending respectively over the first and second longitudinal portions of the fastening carrier.

Claim 82 (New): A strip material having a longitudinal direction of extent which can be divided by separating across the longitudinal direction of extent to form individual usages in the form of fastening tapes for a hygiene item, each fastening tape comprising a fastening area for permanent attachment to the hygiene item, a closing area for simultaneous detachable joining to a surface of the hygiene item, said closing area comprising first and second areas, said first area having a shear-off securing component of a two-component mechanical fastening system and said second area having a pop-off securing fastener, a plurality of spot-shaped carriers within a carrier area defined

by said spot-shaped carriers, each spot-shaped carrier carrying the shear-off securing component, wherein a selected first set of said plurality of spot-shaped carriers comprises a plurality of edge carriers, each edge carrier forming a respective portion of a border of the carrier area along an edge section of the edge carrier, and wherein a selected second set of said plurality of spot-shaped carriers comprises identical strip-shaped spots, a fastening carrier fastened to said spot-shaped carriers, and a bending line running through the carrier area.

Claim 83 (New): The strip material according to Claim 81, wherein the strip material is further separable substantially in the longitudinal direction of extent.

Claim 84 (New): A diaper having a fastening tape comprising a fastening area for permanent attachment to the diaper, a closing area for simultaneous detachable joining to a surface of the diaper, said closing area comprising first and second areas, said first area having a shear-off securing component of a two-component mechanical fastening system and said second area having a pop-off securing fastener, a plurality of spot-shaped carriers within a carrier area defined by said spot-shaped carriers, each spot-shaped carrier carrying the shear-off securing component,

wherein a selected first set of said plurality of spot-shaped carriers comprises a plurality of edge carriers, each edge carrier forming a respective portion of a border of the carrier area along an edge section of the edge carrier, and wherein a selected second set of said plurality of spot-shaped carriers comprises identical strip-shaped spots, a fastening carrier fastened to said spot-shaped carriers, and a bending line running through the carrier area;

wherein said pop-off securing fastener comprises an adhesive layer comprising an adhesive adhering to a back sheet of the diaper with a separation force of more than 0.05 N/cm^2 .